

# Urban Local Governments and Women Participation

T.Girish Nayaka

Assistant Professor, Department Of Political Science, Government First Grade College, Holalkere, Karnataka State

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## ABSTRACT

*Political participation and attention to women in Municipal neighborhood governments is basically the cycle of upliftment of financial, social and political status of women, the generally oppressed ones, 74th Amendment to the Indian Constitution, in this way making the Urban governments as 'organizations of self-government'. The 74th Amendments can be viewed as milestone in the Indian Women's Movement as it makes sure about 33% reservation of seats for the Indian Municipal women. Anyway it should be remembered that the booking in India has been presented in a situation set apart by Illiteracy, Male strength, Casteism Deep established social convictions, Values which don't support women's affirmation. In the general public at last, the paper will investigate the dynamism of the cycle whereby women Political participation and mindfulness is accomplished through enactment or women participation in the Municipal governments Institutions. The Municipal government framework has been assuming a significant function for improvement of the social monetary and political existence of the Municipal Women portrayal of Municipal Politics.*

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## 1. Introduction

The urban Governments has been assuming a significant part for advancement of the social financial and political existence of the urban individuals people. Gaur reviewed various investigations on Urban governments Raj framework in India covering assortment of issues and points on verifiable full scale levels, provincial level just as nearly on all broad parts of urban governments. He further reviewed both hypothetical just as exact pieces of the examinations. He pointed out that in the current improvement setting in India, quick changes are occurring on the financial scene which gets their path for arriving at changes in social, social, and political parts of life Thus there is actually need for miniature investigations which stay even green and having an orientation on strategy issues.

Athreya, V.B and Bhargava, B .S. and Bhaskar, Manu, characterizes political participation as the verity of manners by which individuals attempt to impact the political cycle. He has looked to recognize the channels through which residents endeavor to impact the pioneers just as to segregate the sorts of residents able to utilize these channels consistently .

Town is the essential unit of social urban life in India. The worry of the administration for the life, freedom and success of the urban masses, not long after autonomy, was reflected in different estimates adopted by it to better their part. In actuality, the noticeable pioneers puff freedom battle, for example, Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Jai Prakash Narian indicated that the significant errand of Independent India is take popular government to the grass-attaches level and to include the urban masses in the undertaking of public recreation. As indicated by Mahatma Gandhi, genuine majority rule government couldn't worked by twenty men sitting at the Center. It must be worked out from beneath by the individuals of town. He envisaged the vision of self sustained and independent town republics fit for dealing with their undertakings. Additionally. Jai Prakash Narain, then again expressed his view that key bases of all political associations in the nation are the Urban governments Raj Institutions and that

those bodies may practice the broadest conceivable position to administer their issues. His primary hypothetical idea was that the base level town get together might be linked with the public level gathering through an arrangement of direct political race.

By watching the 74th constitution alteration act, one can come to think about the primary highlights of this demonstration. A large portion of the arrangements of the 74th Amendment act are pertinent in character. For example, including the urban governments raj organization s in miniature town level arranging, customary political decision for urban governments after terminate of their term under oversight of the state political decision commissions, making the urban governments raj foundations monetarily practical and so on Not just that this demonstration secures the self-rule of the states for instance framing of the low's relating the records and review has been left in the hands of state assembly and intensity of arrangement of money commission to survey the monetary situation of Urban governments and to recommended standards administering distribution of assessments and awards in help among states and urban governments raj bodies has been given to the state political race commission. There all are considered as most invite arrangements of this Act. Aside from these, reservation plot for the workplace of directors of urban governments for the SC/ST and women is additionally significant arrangement of this Act.

## 2. The Role of Elected Women

In the assessment of the assignment of women in urban governments, the predicament is whether women should turn out only for the issues and improvement of women or whether they would stand for the electorate involving the two women and others. Woman respondents generally asserted that they were not for elite women's issue or cause, they somewhat tired to work for aggregate interests of urban individuals. With respect to inclination in specifically recipients for plans/advances they reportedly acted on monetary standards of poor or station us specified in the rules and not

unquestionably into terms of naturally/sex. I have tried to see political participation as a cycle in which individuals attempt to influence the legislature by partaking in the democratic conduct; by convincing others to cast a ballot;

Sushila Agrawal has composed a book entitled "Status of Women" (1988). The established arrangements in India have been analyzed with regards to social reality and conventional worth system. Uncommon arrangements of Indian and criminal procedure codes for the security of women who could be a casualty of the offenses openly and private life on account of her sex have been examined.

Vijay Kaushik and Bela Rani Sharma Said there has been overall arousing about the privileges of women. The United Nations has been accomplishing admirable work toward this path. There is increasingly more mindfulness about improving the working states of women and for giving them appropriate spot in political field Political factions are quick to connect an ever increasing number of women with their working. Every one of these issues have been discussed in this book. Despite the fact that administration is a nonexclusive term which could mean great government or the executives, the administration esteems, kinds of government, the idea of political cycles, the political coalitions and associations, which/whose interests are represented and protected, and the degree of intensity that the majority need to challenge the state or in recommending choices in strategies for administration and so on may change in various political frameworks. Liberal popular government is founded on reason, law, and freedom of decision but the situation of various social gatherings in the social and political space where force is located isn't generally equivalent practically speaking. This is especially so on account of women. The idea of society or state decisively affects the degree and adequacy of women's political presence and participation of urban legislative issues.

### 3. Conclusion

It is evident that men's attitude towards women's entry into politics has begun to change from that of total rejection to limited encouragement and in some cases even to active encouragement. This trend needs to be strengthened through orientation courses and training programmes for officials and elected representatives, both men and women. Besides there is a need to train the women leaders at regular intervals to enable them to manage the responsibilities assigned to them in the urban governments at all the levels. Since the hard up women members found it difficult to forgo their wages for attending training Programmes, these must be organized at their doorstep and some of the articulate urban governments leaders should be involved as the trainers. Another important effort required for real empowerment of urban women is to bring about an attitudinal change in both men and women. The feeling that women are meant for household activities and rearing children needs to be transformed into a feeling of equal partnership of women and men. To inculcate this they should be imparted education for bringing about social and political awareness among both. Studies on women in politics have emphasized that contact with outside world makes women more alert and also active in the political process. There could be two ways of doing it. The women should also be encouraged to organize themselves. The Mahila Mandals in the village can be effectively used as instruments to mobilize

them for this purpose. Incentives play a vital role in ensuring the participation of elected representatives in decision-making. It has been noticed that there are certain very active and enlightened women leaders at all the levels of urban governments, who have been successfully implementing the developmental schemes and have ensured overall development of their constituencies. Such leaders need to be encouraged by publicizing their leadership qualities and honoring them in public meetings. It will certainly encourage other women representatives and their success stories and good practices will get replicated. The media both print as well as electronic can play an important role in creating awareness in the urban society. It can act as an agent of political socialization for inculcating the values of gender equality and gender justice.

From India's point of view, we cannot expect an outstanding socio economic background in urban set up and demanding high expectation from them in a very short span of reform. Rather my study reveals that education and annual households are not at all affecting the development role of women leaders. The JRY work has been done wonderfully in the urban governments from not so educated agricultural background and politically inexperienced women. We cannot expect more morality from an educated fellow as now we are facing so much corruption at the high level. Another instance can be taken to prove my stand that the women Member of the urban governments denied to open the Urban government's office and made logical argument before the collector demanding more relief for the urban governments. It certainly proves that they can do anything to the extent only acceptability as leaders is the need of the hour. So enormous expectations without attending a proper institutional frame work is certainly not a good trend perhaps, rather we have to be satisfied with this fact and figures for another few years.

So the present study disclosed for the women respondents, not elitist background, family obligation and domination not much determined. Education and occupation have no significant bearing on women's participation. Right from the attendance in the urban governments meetings to their effort in urban plans is up to the expectation. As such the study departs from the result of similar studies elsewhere. Some of the specific suggestions given by the members, both men and women for improving participation of women are as follows:

Training on various aspects of the urban governments should be provided to the women members. Provisions of the 74<sup>th</sup> Amendment, writing records, conducting meetings, understanding of bureaucratic structure, government schemes for the urban poor, unemployed, education, public distribution system, etc. are some of the areas in which training could be given.

Family and Government support. This was identified as an important area requiring attention. Encouragement by the families in the form of appreciation of their official work, their decisions and ensuring their presence in the meetings would help and similarly the government officials need to be more patient towards them and cooperate with them in their work and enabling them to understand their work.

A minimum educational qualification criterion should be laid down for the future contestants, particularly the women contesting for the urban governments elections. This will

facilitate the aspiring contestants to take education seriously from an early age. The importance of education in better administration cannot be denied.

Compulsory attendance in the meetings.

Creation of a feminist consciousness, which makes the women, identify with themselves and the characteristics so specific to them.

To conclude, the findings of the study are indicative of better participation from the women members in future. This will put them in better control of their lives, which is good for the development of the country.

To get objective information about the participation and performance of women member in urban governments process I first intended to go through the preceding of urban governments meeting to identify and comprehend the real role played by each woman member in the decision making process of the Urban governments such as the nature of attendance in the meeting, types of opinion they expressed in the meeting including their preferences and note of dissent if any. First, as to their attendance in the urban governments Raj meeting, three women respondent could not make it and fifteen others are found regular. The official record for 1997-98 substantiated that women members and women Member took up the responsibility very seriously. Secondly, I have an idea about prior preparation of women respondents; it is found that twelve women members did not have any preceding preparation for any meeting. But other six, Members and

nominee say that they consult local party leaders before going to any meeting. Thirdly, the nature of acceptance of women's point in Urban governments body meeting substantiate that they participated actively in the discussion and debate by way of what future action required to be taken up where more development works to be undertaken and funds be allocated. The total of twelve women categorically informs that their points/views raised in the meetings were not complied with while taking final decision. As women members' points were not always compiled with within meetings their reaction to such reputation would probably indicate the true nature and impact of their participation. It was found that twelve women members took refutation to their points in meetings without any form of protest or any pressure to take note of their views. Thus they may be classified as passive spectators who are unable to strike their entry to actual urban governments decision-making. For the rest, their performance was not as shabby. They somehow reacted to the discontinuance of their views or remaining absent as a mark of protest. Fourthly, another indicator of ambition for role performance was tested. Of the total women respondents, 86% felt satisfied with their respective urban government's roles and 57% expressed their readiness to contest next urban government's election. 43% declined to stand for next urban governments Raj election. The main cause of departing urban government's institution was not because of their incapacity but for factors beyond their immediate control.

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